

major problem. If there is no problem, why is the production not increasing? He has stated that with a view to encouraging them, schemes have been introduced to advance them loans, etc. The demand for handloom cloth in foreign countries is falling. May I know the reasons for this fall in demand? Is it due to poor quality? Secondly, how much funds the Government are going to earmark this year to encourage their other works and to give them loans, and how much is Andhra's share in that?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, let me make it clear that no funds are earmarked State-wise. The funds are allocated for the entire work. The hon. Member's submission that the quality of cloth is deteriorating is not correct, because it may be seen that out of 3600 millions metres of cloth manufactured in 1985-86, 342 million metres of cloth was manufactured by the handloom sector and cloth worth Rs. 361.59 crores was exported. It proves that there is neither a shortfall in exports nor in production.

SHRI V. TULSIRAM : He has not stated as to how much funds they allot to each State?

MR. SPEAKER : He has replied that the funds are not allocated State-wise; haven't you heard that?

SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Are you satisfied, Mr. Speaker, Sir?

MR. SPEAKER : What can I do about it?

SHRI V. TULSIRAM : How much do they allot to the States...

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : In each State, we have schemes on 50-50 basis. In case, any scheme is received from Andhra Pradesh on 50-50 basis, they are sure to get funds.

[English]

Ban on Recruitment for Existing Vacancies and Creation of New Posts

*128 **PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR† :**
SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether representations have been received from the labour Unions and MPs for complete withdrawal of the ban imposed on filling of existing vacancies and the creation of new posts in services under the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI) : (a) and (b). Following requests and representations from Hon'ble Members of Parliament, Ministries/Departments and staff associations etc., the Government have recently modified the guidelines regarding creation of posts/filling up of vacancies.

According to the revised guidelines, subject to fulfilment of certain conditions, vacancies both Plan and non-Plan, arising due to promotion, retirement, death, resignation, dismissal, removal or deputation etc. can now be filled up. Likewise, the procedure for filling up of and creation of Plan posts has been liberalised.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : This is a very important question. Sir, the rural areas are the hardest hit. As you are having a soft attitude towards rural areas, I would like to ask two points raised in this answer. One is regarding the recent modification which is also subjected to fulfilment of certain conditions and also the filling up of and creation of plan posts have been liberalised. I would like to know as to what is the liberalisation? What are the conditions that have been imposed?

SHRI B. K. GADHVI : In the recent liberalisation, so far as Plan posts and Non-Plan posts are concerned, several guidelines have been issued. One is that vacancies both for Plan and Non-Plan arising due to promotion, retirement, death, resignation, dismissal, removal or deputation etc. may be filled up. The second is that while creating any new assets such as purchase of vehicles, establishment of new organisations etc., staff

required for running assets of such items should also be provided. The number of posts that can be available by re-deployment from the existing ones should be taken into account while deciding staff requirement.

As regards creation of posts under Plan Schemes, the staff component should be considered as part of the entire plan scheme at the formulation stage. While approving Plan Schemes by Ministries/Departments under the delegated powers by EFC, PIB, no piece-meal decision should be taken in respect of approval of scheme leaving aside staff component. Whenever a scheme is approved, the necessary staff for execution of such scheme may also be provided for. However, a condition should be imposed that precise timing of filling up of such posts should be indicated with reference to the various stages of the completion of projects/schemes. But for this, there is no modification existing regarding guidelines for creation of non-plan posts. With regard to creation of non-plan posts also, some modifications are issued and for certain posts, the Finance Minister and for certain posts with the approval of the Cabinet, such posts should be created.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : The hardest-hit in this regard is Department of Posts and Telegraph. Even the branch post-office in villages where the Government is to pay only a paltry sum of Rs. 200 etc. cannot be opened. As per one estimate, more than 2000 justified proposals for the opening of post-offices have not been sanctioned because of this ban. No post-office has been upgraded. Rather they were closed and downgraded. This has hit the village development very hard. In view of this, when such a ban was imposed in the year 1974.—I am referring to the order dated the 30th August 1974, the following exemptions were given : the operational posts in the Indian Meteorological Department and the Posts and Telegraphs Department all these are approved yardsticks. In view of this order of the Ministry of Finance in 1974 giving exemption to the Department of Posts and Telegraphs regarding filling up of operational posts, will the Minister consider at least this? If complete withdrawal of this ban is not in contempla-

tion, at least this order of 1974 could be again taken into account and the Department of Posts and Telegraphs and the other Departments mentioned in this circular could be exempted and creation of additional posts and recruitment to operational posts could be allowed. Will the Minister consider this?

SHRI B. K. GADHVI : We quite appreciate that there is a lot of demand from all the Ministries for creation of certain posts and for filling up of posts. These bans were imposed as a measure of economy. Therefore, whenever we found the justification, then the necessary modifications were issued and guidelines were given to them. I can give the total number of posts created and allowed to be filled even after the imposition of the ban. The number was 1,75,000; and other posts 9,229. With regard to the demands of the Postal Department also, we would certainly like to look to their very justified and genuine demands, and we will keep in mind the suggestion made by the hon. Member.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : May I know from the hon. Minister what was the total number of posts created for the Department of Posts and Telegraphs? In reply to Prof. Narain Chand Parashar's question, the Minister has stated that one lakh additional jobs have been provided. We would like to know how many of these were for the Department of Posts and Telegraphs. Also, is opening of Branch Post Offices or PCOs considered a Plan or non-Plan expenditure? It is helping the development of infrastructure in the countryside. We want a specific answer from the hon. Minister to this point.

SHRI B. K. GADHVI : Presently I do not have the exact figure about particular Department, but I will furnish the figure to the hon. Member.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : We have received representations from Trade Unions associated with many government departments. Therefore, the question that has been asked is a very general one. In a number of Departments, a similar situation exists; whether it is Posts and Telegraphs or whether it is Railways or

whether it is even the Reserve Bank of India, we find that even in respect of sanctioned posts, no recruitments have been made. The general reply that people receive is that there is a total ban, a total ban not only on the creation of new posts but also on filling up of the vacant posts. It is understood that Government have, perhaps, taken a decision to relax the ban at least on filling up of the vacant posts. I would like to know whether, in fact, this is so and whether this is being implemented, that is to say, apart from creating fresh posts which are required for the expansion of facilities, for example, in the Tele-communications Department, whether Government have the intention of filling up the sanctioned posts, which are lying vacant at the moment, during the current financial year.

SHRI B. K. GADHVI : I think my answer has not gone home. I said that so far there is no total ban. Only there is a change in the procedure. If a post is to be created then at a certain level it can be created in the Finance Ministry. If the post is higher, drawing more than Rs. 3000 it has to go to the Cabinet. We have only changed the procedure and the administrative ministries are not allowed to create the posts themselves. They have to suggest for creation of posts with justification and in some cases the approval has been given by the Cabinet and by the Finance Ministry.

So far as the second part of the question is concerned, all these posts which were created before the ban orders came into force in 1984 were allowed to be filled in and now under the recent guidelines we are allowing those posts also which became vacant because of dismissals, removal for so many reasons to be filled in. Therefore, to suggest that there is a total ban is not a correct statement.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : All I am asking is : are you going to fill up all the vacant posts within the financial year at least ? We need this assurance.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI : We are going to initiate plenty of measures of economy. Under that if we find it fit even for the purposes of more efficiency as well

as to upkeep the economy in expenditure, if it is desirable, we will certainly look into it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH ATHWAL : Sir, this question relates to the promotion and filling up of the vacancies. One of the guidelines laid down for this purpose is 'subject to the fulfilment of certain conditions'. I would like to know what are these certain conditions ? I would specifically like to know what these certain conditions are with regard to the promotion of scheduled castes and filling up of resultant vacancies ? This problem is not confined to the Departments of the Government of India, but the State Government Departments are also affected by it. Under the so-called 'certain conditions', the officers belonging to the scheduled castes are debarred from promotion. Therefore, I would like to know what these certain conditions are ? My second supplementary is why the promotions and facilities due to the officers belonging to the scheduled castes before de-reservation of the posts are delayed ? Thirdly, it is compulsory for the Department to get non-availability certificate. I would like to know whether the Departments obtain that certificate before filling these posts ?

SHRI B.K. GADHVI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the condition is that we have to maintain the ratio of reservation with regard to the posts reserved for the scheduled castes. There is no question of giving any relaxation in that.

SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH ATHWAL : Since annual C.Rs. are spoiled under these 'certain conditions', I would like to know as to what these certain conditions are ? What I want to know is whether you are prepared to give relaxation in these 'certain conditions' ?

SHRI B.K. GADHVI : Not quite relevant. Grade A posts on the Plan side can be filled up with the approval of the Finance Minister. The posts in Grade B, C and D can be filled up with the approval of the Secretary (Expenditure)

and the posts carrying basic pay of more than Rs. 3000 are to go before the Cabinet for approval before they are filled up. The proposals for filling up of Non-Plan posts are sent to the Cabinet after the approval of the Finance Minister and it is the Cabinet that decides whether these posts are to be filled up or not. These are the conditions that we have laid down.

SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the name of improving the economic condition, all new appointments have been banned since 1974, as a result of which the problem of unemployment has further aggravated. Keeping in view this problem of unemployment, is there any proposal under consideration of the Government to lift this ban on new appointments in the near future ?

SHRI B.K. GADHVI : It is not correct to say that all appointments have been banned. As I have told earlier, all 1,75,000 posts that were created earlier have since been filled up. Even after that, 9229 posts have been filled up and it makes the total number of posts filled up quite large. So far as the question of filling up of other posts is concerned, such as Home Ministry, Railways where the security environment and the security measures are involved, the justification is given, but it is not possible to lift the ban totally as yet.

SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM : You are saying that the ban is continuing.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI : Some provisions have been kept under which some posts can be created and filled up, the ban notwithstanding. It is not yet possible to lift the ban completely.

SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : The Central Government as well as the State Governments have made provision for the payment of overtime allowance. It has been seen that on the one hand the Central Government and State Government employees work less and on the other hand, they always hanker after overtime. I would like to suggest why new appointments are not made in the offices instead of paying overtime so that the people could get employment ?

SHRI B.K. GADHVI : Thanks for your suggestion. I would like to inform the House that the Prime Minister is also of the view that the employees should dispose of adequate quantum of work in lieu of their pay. We are also seeing to it that they work accordingly and for this purpose, the quantum of work has already been laid down. It can be seen that the work is going on smoothly in spite of the fact that the posts are not being filled up. It proves that the employees are working more efficiently.

[English]

Opposition by UK and USA to imposition of Selective Sanctions against South Africa

*129. **SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI† :**
SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that despite India's plea, the United States and Britain vetoed non-aligned move on 18 June, 1986 in the UN Security Council for selective sanctions against racist South Africa;

(b) if so, whether the United State and Britain have given any reasons against imposition of economic sanctions; and

(c) if so the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). In his statement before the Security Council, the UK Representative recalled his country's opposition to the imposition of mandatory sanctions based on Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter and added that economic boycotts do not work. The Statement referred to the UK's consultations with its partners in the Commonwealth and the European community and said that the UK was not prepared to be pushed into adopting particular measures in advance of such consultations.